
Maria T. Millan



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President and CEO

Maria Millan is the President and CEO of CIRM. Joining the Agency in December 2012, Maria was the Medical Officer for two of CIRM's early first-in-human clinical trials and led the formation of the Alpha Stem Cell Clinics Network which, within a year of launch, actively supports over 20 clinical trials. Maria led the development of CIRM's strategic clinical and translational infrastructure programs, the Accelerating Center (stem cell focused clinical research organization), the Translating Center (stem cell focused preclinical research organization) and the ATP3 Public Private Partnership, all designed to markedly accelerate stem cell therapeutic development. Before serving as President, Maria was Vice President of CIRM's Therapeutics group. This group identifies promising clinical stage stem cell projects for partnership with CIRM and, along with top tier advisors and key opinion leaders, works with investigators to accelerate therapeutic development for patients with unmet medical needs.

Beginning her career as an academic transplant surgeon and researcher, Maria has continued to focus on driving innovative solutions for improving treatment options and outcomes for patients with life threatening conditions. She received her general surgery training and transplant immunology postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard Medical School- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, was trained in transplant at Stanford University School of Medicine and served as Associate Professor of Surgery and Director of the Pediatric Organ Transplant Program at Stanford. She has served on multiple leadership committees, including the Stanford Medical School Faculty Senate, faculty search and retention committees, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital operations committee, the American Society for Transplantation's Vanguard Committee and the ISSCR Clinical Translation Committee. She is a former Vice President and acting Chief Medical Officer for StemCells, Inc. where she oversaw the launch of the company's first clinical trial for a rare and fatal pediatric CNS condition and served as the Head of the company's Liver Program.

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